IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Confirmation No.: 5546

Andrea COSSARIZZA

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Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Application No.: 10/522,405

Examiner: Unassigned

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NUMBER OF A NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCE

Customer No.: 30827

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

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